

FELIXSTOWE

By

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After morning coffee OLIVER MOSS takes his race horse SPITFIRE for his morning Gallup , then walks from the stables to the main house. He's greeted by DORATHY at the main door and they step up into the black and white tiled entrance .They walk past a plinth with a Wedgewood vase and into an Oak paneled living room .

DORATHY goes over and pulls the blinds and OLIVER sits on a corduroy three piece suite and makes a conference call using the INTERCOM .

MOSS Hello Matt how are you
? HOUSTON By
the time you've made it to Ecuador I'll have the esperanto
fully crewed With a youth team from Haiti

for us to sail around the Galapagos Islands

JOE CAPP Our plan to recruit a youth team in Newtown went like a dream

MOSS Glad to hear it tell me the details
JOE

CAPP STRINGFELLOW SHAW was doing
work experience pushing a refreshments cart on my train
two bath and I pretended he spilt a hot drink down my best
suit . MOSS Clever bit of subterfuge
from you . JOE

CAPP We've just had a lengthy interview at
the OLIVER MOSS STUDIOS And he'll be picking his
team at Newtown and sending diary
entries. HOUSTON Ficti

Fictionalize

MOSS Great we can
give them their first assignment for a trip to
FELIXSTOWE .

only we could all take the easy way out and go to space before we retire . JOE CAPP and by now ROLLING THUNDER will have our Foundation mascot at Newtown Recreation around so we can talk to our new youth team via him .

Keen as mustard invites teams to our facility in Ecuador. This two week package, which will include two days on the esperanto sailing ship taking you around the islands and two days on the Galapagos islands .

Rolling thunder drives the mid morning traffic and stops at the entrance to the recreation ground .BUBBA and SKI collect a trolley from the back seat, helping foundation mascot LASAFAIR onto the trolley and covering with a tarpaulin .They wheel him into the recreation ground depositing him on grass next to a modern art sculpture near tennis courts .

I hear they're called themselves the TRAFALGAR GANG . When they're set up they'll be football matches right here at this Recreation Ground

BUBBA We've got another
ferrying assignment of Foundation members.

The two men leave the creation ground and the statue standing near the tennis courts .

STRINGFELLOW gets up early and pulls on a blue tracksuit and leaves his house to get to Newtown recreational ground .

When he enters the park and walks a path along the side of a field where sculptures from the art college are displayed near Tennis courts . Among them is a bipedal structure that's actually LASAFAIR a robot controlled directly by our founder.

He jogs to the back of the structure There is a flap at the back of the statue and he pulls it aside to insert the jack plug into its socket attached to headphones . A message is activated And from the headphones he can hear a synthesized ambidextrous voice saying :-

Hello there we have a new assignment for you your first mission for the OLIVER MOSS FOUNDATION will be to find a retired disc jockey in FELIXSTOWE where our predictive department ANDREW STERLING IS living.

He is to be Recruited into our Foundation to become an astronaut on an independent space mission over the red eye of Jupiter .Just recruit him and keep in contact tell him he has a big destiny with the foundation, but don't tell him what. If you can bring him in, then you and your compatriots shall be VIP's at my Texas Ranch .

Details to follow/ Best of luck.

STRINGFELLOW unplugs his special head phones and twists a cap to cover a socket. Lasafair is once more, an obscure piece of architecture standing near the tennis courts.

After carefully selecting his team for the TRAFALGAR GANG, Stringfellow gets to school full of confidence for the next season. There form master is coming around with reports from work experience .

KEVIN FORTESQUE You all excelled yourselves and there wasn't any bad behavior from the job assignments so get to assembly now.

STRINGFELLOW
I neglected to tell them that I was recruited by an international intelligence organization while pushing a trolley along a train carriage.

They leave their class and walk along the brightly lit corridor to the main entrance and then join the throng of students in the hall to the left. The teachers sit on the stage as all the students take their places, and the headmaster stands at his lectern. Students are given best wishes for the bank holiday weekend and then sing **"all things bright and beautiful"** to a packed audience .

Then class 5b fall out and walk to the single story extension to the back of the main building .The teachers followed the students out and the headmaster catches games mistress Bernice Summerfield by the arm .

MAURICE DENHAM Oh Benny have you got as moment? I see you have can I borrow you.

Well I have a recipe for a black olive pesto that Kevin wants me to pick up from WAITROSE, and JEMIMA wants her balloons and felt tip pens for arts and crafts at tea time, but I was hoping..

DENHAM
YES YES, walk this way , he leads her around the main hall and down a flight of steps to the basement where a musty smell of disused paper files wafts her sinuses. BENNY Looks like a far cry from the world of academia, and will bring on my hay fever so

what's the plan MR

DENHAM.

DENHAM

I'LL GET ONE OF the freshers to help don't worry, and you'll be doing me a favor, someone from the LEA is after test papers and I need them sorted, alright BENNY ALRIGHT THEN, though my mark could help I'll give him a ring.

The headmaster takes the steps and catches one of the students by the sholder

DENHAM Paul can you stack the files with Benny down there till I come back .

A young in a blue blazer and crest on the pocket runs down the stairs with [I'm all yours miss]

BENNY ALRIGHT PAUL, unfortunately the papers I need are berried under that stack so you'll have to shift them over to me .

She leaves the keen pupil moving boxes and rings MARK in the school grounds .

BERNICE The headmaster's given me a clerical and filing job so I won't come and help with the weeding of the rhododendron bush as planed, though I'll see you soon. MARK GREENSTREET GREAT, there goes my entertainment I'll have to get one of my groupies for the rest of the gardening, but don't pull out of that dinner date. BERNICE No I've a list as long as your arm for arts and crafts so see you later.

The rest of STRINGFELLOW'S class have made it to the home economics room just before KEVIN FERTESQUE .

David GARDNER I notice a strand of gray just there in your left temple Sir. Tim Oh dear Sir you not going gray already are you Kevin. KEVIN

FORTISQUE
year lads or not.

Do you want to get a pass this
TIM CURRY

Are you coming over, I've got your double
French homework completed, and there 's GOLDFINGER
on the telly.

SHAW Great I have to arrange a trip to
FELIXSTOWE for a mission, given to me this
morning.

DENHAM

I'll see you at six tonight.

LORA

Back in the basement PAUL is restacking boxes and
showing paperwork to BERNICE .

PAUL
Miss

It's an old brief case or something
BERNICE LETS

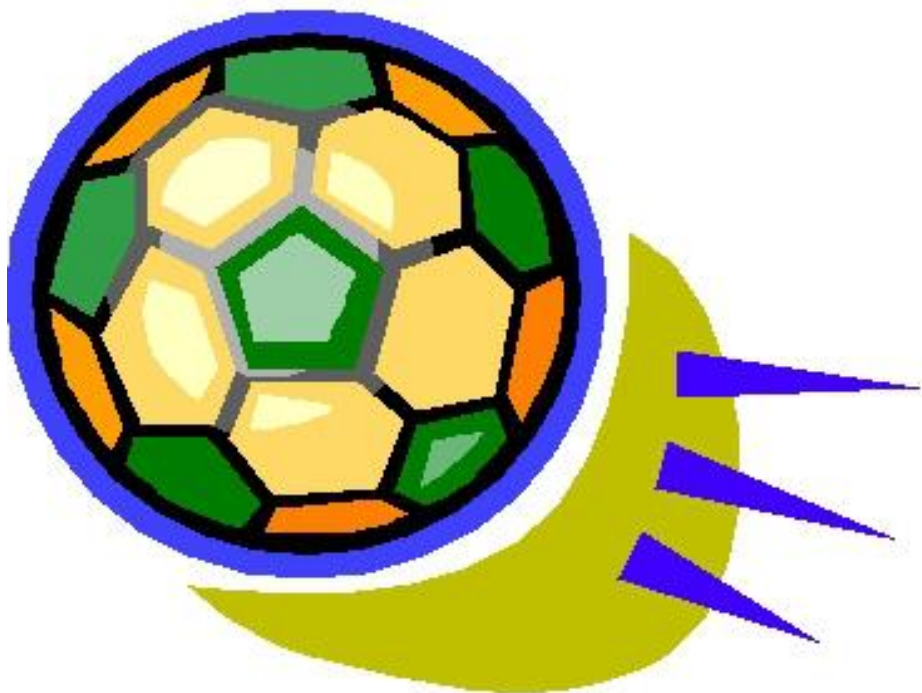
HAVE A LOOK, IT'S PROBABLY THE BUDGET FOR
PREDECIMAL SCHOOL

. PAUL
seems to be a timetable and a protractor,

BERNICE makes a careful inspection of the case

BERNICE

It seems to be a brown leather
satchel from a student from our dads time a tag saying
BILLY BUNTER .I'll check with school records and come
back within the hour



Later on the head boy is at the center of the pitch with BENNY AND RODNEY tossing a coin.

BENNY BILLY BUNTER had to carry this to school every day . RODNEY

Glad we gave improved on the text books and the research, now brothers and sisters play ball .

He places the ball in the center and blows his whistle then stands well back as class 5b [THE TRAFALGAR GANG] fan out and start passing

. BERNICE takes the satchel to the side lines and joins her boyfriend .

ANN FITZGERALD This is a very old leather, and dry and quite musty, shorly of not much use and the leather is dry miss

? BERNICE
GET OUT ON THE PITCH .

.After school, STRINGFELLOW SHAW and the Trafalgar gang have again met up in a large bomb crater in the middle of Newtown woods

TIM CURRY

TIM CURRY So as I was saying lads, we
just moved here from Western super

SULLIVAN

SULLIVAN Might I ask what your dad does for a
living then Tim.

TIM CURRY H

TIM CURRY

He is

a chauffeur for people with alcoholic problems in town
center
rehab.

GARDNER

GARDNER And I'm from Milton Keens and play the bongos in my back garden, now isn't that a coincidence. S7

STRING

SHAW

SHAW And I have a packed program of events for the OLIVER MOSS FOUNDATION starting this evening with a trip to FELIXSTOWE, for a day out while I find a new recruit.

It is just starting to rain as the TRAFALGAR GANG pull up in a minibus underneath a bright yellow awning outside NEWTOWN Train station .A Pigeon flees down from a street lamp and starts pecking at breadcrumbs .

JAMES GRANGER

We really

appreciate this your reverence .

STRINGFELLOW SHAW

I've

just texted LORA and the rest of the gang should be here with our park keepers RUFFUS and ROY .

They walk under the bright yellow awning to get out the rain , then wait at the front entrance to the train station .RUFFUS and ROY come along for the rest of the gang

RUFFUS

Here comes the rest of your motley crew .

David Gardener and Tim arrive with matching HE-MAN satchels for packed lunch .

They enjoy a nice train journey through the countryside until they get to FELIXSTOWE and agree to split up to allow for more interesting and varied events fictionalized when they send in their diary entries to MOSS TOWERS .

STRINGFELLOW

I'll collect your diaries

when we get back to Newtown and post them and send them to Moss towers in bath and they should reach the front cover of KEEN AS MUSTARD magazine .

ANN FITZGERALD

I'll have found a

smuggler's Cave at the bottom of the cliffs , then I'll get captured and held to ransom by IRISH REPUBLICANS hell bent on starting a popular uprising .

GRAHAM

Sounds likely .

ANN FITZGERALD They'll tie me upside down
only for me to reach for my phone with my hand tied
behind my back, speed dial and have RUFUS and
ROY rescue me.

RUFFUS Yeah we'll go for a walk along
the rocks until we find a beer garden and see you
later .

MICHAEL SULLIVAN For us we intend to
take a walk along the sea front till we get to the pier .
RUFFUS and ROY go right towards Old Town and
the others left towards the seafront leaving
STRINGFELLOW and LORA to complete their
mission from the foundation .

STRINGFELLOW and LORA find 42 Winsor gardens and
ANDREW STERLING pops his bald head out his green
door.

STRINGFELLOW Greetings to you captain, we
are the TRAFALGAR GANG and we're here to offer you a
change from your hum drum existence

ANDREW STERLING
I've been expecting you please come in.

They are lead down a narrow corridor adorned with colorful posters to a living room with floral wallpaper and a large sash window illuminating a tatty arm chair and beer fridge . Next to him is a stereo system with separate mixing record decks.

STRINGFELLOW Thank for letting us in Sir,
we are here from the OLIVER MOSS FOUNDATION

ANDREW
STERLING I got a call yesterday from a man saying
he is calling from THE FOUNDATION and want to send
the operatives TO “bring me in”.

LORA DENHÂM

It'll be worth your

while your greatest career move if you accept. STRINGFELLOW We know what it's like for independent disc jockeys trying to compete in the modern technical world . What you have here is a chance for you to be in with my gang and you may become an astronaut instead of just another unemployment statistic.

ANDREW STERLING It has been tough recently getting gigs .I used to do children's parties weddings and Barmitzvas

DENHAM LORA As soon as our agents over in South America get the green light , we can offer you a ticket to outer space.

LORA hands Andrew a Job description. The printout explains :-

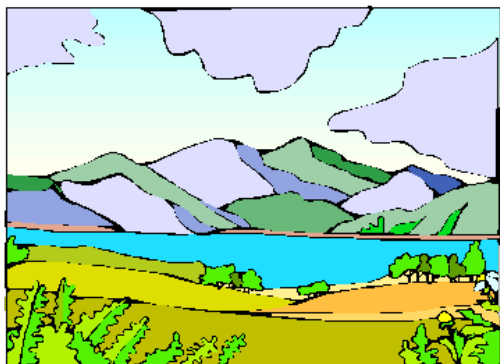
Subject to final clearance from our research team and approval we are offering you the chance to become the first Disc Jockey in space broadcasting your own music from a fixed orbit over the red eye of JUPITER .

LORA You don't have to make the decision now just sign up with us and if this mission to Jupiter becomes reality you'll be flown all the way to America to start your astronaut training . . Give us an agreement in principal and we shall keep you informed on progress.

STRINGFELLOW We shall bring you our international bestseller KEEN AS MUSTARD which has a worldwide readership of 60 million.

ANDREW STERLING Alright then I'll agree but I'm not sure I'm ready to be fired into outer space, however much of a celebrity it would make me.

see the fate of our space DJ in ;-



Over near the sea front MICHAEL SULLIVAN and DAVID MANNING Are walking up the pier and come to the novelty rock Emporium .Next to this traditional seaside shop, MADAM ZARA is outside her booth as the waves crash underneath .A seagull walks along pecking into slice of bread .

MADAM ZARA Cross my palm with silver young man and I'll read your fortune , I'm a Romany don't you know.

David enters Madam Zara's kiosk and sits by a large crystal ball.

DAVID MANNING Why is my life so strange then madam zara.

MADAM ZARA enters and sits down next to him.

MADAM ZARA First the hand

She grabs hold of his right arm firmly .

MADAM ZARA I see much turmoil in your life , there will be travel and adventure to be had.After that there shall prosperity .

DAVID MANNING That's the kind of guy I am fun
an adventure .

MADAM ZARA NOW FOR THE CRYSTAL BALL
.

She waves her hands over the large glass ball in front of
her and presses a pedal on the floor , and the ball slowly
fills with smoke.

MADAM ZARA You and your girlfriend shall have a
tabby cat when you get your flat in Newtown .

MICHAEL SULLIVAN How charming, that sounds
really nice .

DAVID chuckles at the psychics sense of humor and gets
down on one knee next to table.

DAVID MANNING What about me ?

MADAM ZARA You will have a fat ginger
and a Guinea pig, according to this gateway to the astral
plain. Now either cross my palm with silver again or
remove yourself from my kiosk.

The two friends thank her and leave her booth , where they
find that it has started to rain and the tide is sending a fine
spray of sea water from down below them. .Buying a
novelty crab shell and a polished pebble from the novelty
rock emporium they make their way to a seaside telescope,
which is the rendezvous point.

At the station STRINGFELLOW and LORA say goodbye
to ANDREW STERLING and promise to stay in touch
then wait under the bright yellow awning at the front of the
station for the rest of the TRAFALGAR GANG .

STRINGFELLOW Remember I need your diary
entries to be sent to MOSS TOWERS to be fictionalized
by the drama department .

see the fate of our space DJ in ;-

https://archive.org/details/mission-to-jupiter-pt-1_202312